ISTC 301: **Matthew O’Connor**

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Final Reflection “Exam”

Technology is essential for education today. Students in the 21st century classroom need to have technology incorporated into their educational curriculum. Technology only aids to better every learning type and can overall improve student’s outlook on education. An example of this in everyday life is look at the different learning types. There are visual, auditory, and  kinesthetic learners; incorporation of technology helps all these learning types with one simple tool. Using power points and smart boards gives the students a broader understanding of the material they are learning and give me a better idea of how it can be incorporated into our society. This is essential in my field of study because sometimes it is very hard to understand just a plain definition of a biological process. With an image or an animation of the process the students will be more likely to understand the subject matter and give more thorough answers in class.

Technology is also an important tool for the teachers. Technology enables the teacher to take the class beyond the classroom. Through the use of videos and virtual tours teacher an incorporate subject matter that they were never able to do so before. Furthermore, technology enables educators to provide students with extra material that will overall facilitate them to understanding the material more thoroughly and giving them a better understanding of the class. Finally, technology is a tool that is significant channel in our society and is important for our future. This is why the educational field needs to stay at societal standards and understand that technology is the means for furthering education.

Students in the 21st century classroom look at technology as their transition into the world. Most students today have grown up with technology as their main source of communication and it is only becoming more prevalent. Technology is their gateway to the world and for the most part students enjoy having technology around them. For educators and the educational system not using technology to its fullest is absurd and unorthodox for this time period. Technology links everyone together and enables students to see beyond the classroom. Technology may seem unnecessary to a 20th century teacher, but as an upcoming 21st century educator I see it as the gate way to the world around us and the best tool for students to be brought into it.

**I believe that my idea of the importance of technology has stayed similar to what it was at the beginning of this class. I did learn how to use different forms of technology in the class room and how its importance has a larger impact then just the classroom. In addition, from this class I learned how to incorporate more than one type of technology ( i.e. not just using PowerPoint, but also YouTube, glogster, vokies, and even wordles). Finally, from this class I have learned that students in the 21st century students expect to be using technology like they use in the daily lives and not incorporating technology is just counterproductive for our society as a whole.**